

[English]

MR. SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned for lunch to re-assemble at 2.45 p.m.

13.45 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned for Lunch till Forty Minutes past Two of the Clock.

14.52 hrs.

The Lok Sabha re-assembled after Lunch at Fifty-Two Minutes past Fourteen of the Clock

(Mr. Deputy-Speaker in the Chair)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Now we shall take up Matters under Rule 377

[English]

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

(i) **Need to Sanction Adequate funds for the implementation of Arba-Jhorabahal Community Irrigation Project, Orissa**

KUMARI FRIDA TOPNO (Sundergarh) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I draw the attention of the Government to the Arba-Jhorabahal Community Irrigation Project under Panposh Integrated Tribal Development Agency in Sundargarh parliamentary constituency. The Government of Orissa had requested the Union Government to sanction a sum of Rs. 9 crore for the Project. The Union Government had sanctioned Rs. 3.58 crore for the implementation of the Head Project only. Now, the total cost of the project has been estimated at Rs. 9 crore. Sir, if the project is implemented it would irrigate 4,000 acres of land in kharif season and 3,500 acres in rabi season in the first phase and 2,700 acres in rabi season during the second phase. This will benefit 2,703 small and marginal farmers of which 2,464 belong to Scheduled Tribe community, 136 to Scheduled Caste and 103 to other communities, bulk of whom are below the poverty line. Sir, once the Project is materialised it would change the fortunes of these tribals.

I would, therefore, request the Union Government to sanction Rs. 9 crore in favour of Arba-Jhorabahal Community Irrigation Project and place it under the disposal of Integrated Tribal Development Agency Panposh in the District of Sundargarh, Orissa.

(ii) **Need to Develop Sitamarhi in Bihar as a Tourist Resort**

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI (Sitamarhi) : Sir, Sitamarhi which is the birth place of Sita, in Bihar is a

very backward area. This place is a historic tourist place and there are no facilities for tourists. I had taken up this matter to develop this place as a tourist resort in the Tenth Lok Sabha also but no action seems to have been taken in this regard. Now I suggest the following points for developing this place as a historic place :

1. Sitamarhi should be put on the national tourist map and all facilities should be provided for tourists;
2. Muzafarpur-Sitamarhi new railway line should be approved this year; and
3. Patna-Muzafarpur-Sitamarhi road should be upgraded as a National Highway.

(iii) **Need to Provide Adequate funds for Rural Health centres in the country and also introduce Rural Health Policy**

DR. ASIM BALA (Navadwip) : Primary Health Centres in the country are essential. A number of health centres in the country are without doctors and medicines. In rural centres, mostly poor villagers suffer from lack of health care. The main reason for their suffering in the health centres in the villages is, lack of proper funds in the Rural Health Policy. Moreover no infrastructure facilities are available in the rural hospitals. I request the Union Government to provide necessary funds for medicine and introduce rural health policy in the country.

(iv) **Need to take steps to save the tanneries and leather industries Operating in Ambur and Vaniampadi from Closure**

*SHRI D. VENUGOPAL (Tiruppattur) : Sir, I wish to bring to the notice of the Government the hurdles posed by the concerted efforts the Government takes to control pollution in protecting the environment to the detriment of industrial growth. Tanneries and leather industries are operating in Ambur and Vaniampadi for a long time. These industries provide scope for economic activity and employment opportunity in this area which is otherwise industrially backward. Now, most of these leather industrial units are facing closure due to the implementation of pollution control measures. The people in these areas are more affected by the closure of these units than by the possible pollution that could be caused by these units. Apart from losing their livelihood, the people could not get any remedial or reclamatory process that could employ them in agricultural activity.

The country is also losing crores of valuable foreign exchange earned by many of these export-oriented

* English translation of the Speech

* Original delivered in Tamil

units. So I would like to emphasise that the Union Government should take it upon itself the pollution control, reprocessing and effluent treatment measures as an essential service in public interest. Either through the Central Leather Research Institute or through the new technology obtained from elsewhere, the Union Government should take measures to help these units in managing the effluents, thereby saving drinking water, the cultivable land and also the labourers from among the local population who would be hard hit by the stringent action of the Government that leaves these units in the lurch, facing closure.

15.00 hrs.

(v) Need to Ensure Early Construction of a Bridge over Lohit and Khabolu Rivers at Majuli, Assam

DR ARUN KUMAR SARMA (Lakhimpur) : Sir, Majuli is the largest river island of the world located within my Lakhimpur constituency of Assam. Till today, this island is not connected by road communication to other parts of Assam. There is a long standing demand of the public to establish a road link by connecting a bridge over Lohit and Khabolu rivers. The North East Council initiated a proposal to construct the bridge during the Seventh Plan period and got the Planning Commission's approval. The Indian Railway Construction Corporation was entrusted to execute the work and the necessary fund were allocated. Construction of this bridge will facilitate connecting Arunachal Pradesh and Nagaland through a shorter route of 290 K.M. via Majuli from the existing 580 K.M. via Tezpur.

Therefore, I would like to request the hon. Minister of Home Affairs, who is in charge of the North Eastern Council, and the hon. Minister for Planning and Programme Implementation to ensure early implementation of this sanctioned project without further loss of time.

(vi) Need to Expedite the work of Connecting National Highways Nos. 31 and 34 in Katihar District, Bihar

SHRI TARIQ ANWAR (Katihar) : Sir, there was a proposal for connecting National Highway no. 31 and National Highway no. 34 in Katihar District, Bihar. A link road connecting these two National Highways was sanctioned in 1982. All the preliminary work was done long ago. But this could not be taken up till now.

I urge upon the Central Government to expedite the work of connecting the two National Highways nos. 31 and 34.

15.03 hrs.

**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE :
DISAPPROVAL OF THE
DEPOSITORY (THIRD) ORDINANCE, 1996.
AND
DEPOSITORY BILL, 1996**

[Translation]

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA (Jaipur) : I beg to move :-

"That this House disapproves of the Depositories (Third) Ordinance, 1996 (No. 28 of 1996) promulgated by the President on 21 June, 1996."

Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the subject of today's debate is the first ordinance got issued by this Government. I would like to say something to oppose the Depositories Bill brought here through an ordinance promulgated by the hon. President and to highlight a few points to increase the knowledge of this Government which was supposed to sit this side earlier. This Government has followed the practice of previous Government. The Government has not given the reasons for bringing the ordinance and by doing so the Government is following the practice of the previous Government in respect of misusing the provisions of the Constitution. I am a wellwisher of this Government because it has to sit in this side ultimately after sometime therefore I would like to say to leave the practice of promulgating ordinances without giving the reasons therefor. It is not enough to say that hon. President is satisfied. Hon. President would sign an ordinance brought by the Cabinet and he will be satisfied. But I would like to know the reasons for it. I would also like to say that the ordinance was earlier promulgated on 20 September, 1995. Since then what problems have been experienced by the Government, what type of lacunae have been found and what are the difficulties came in its implementation, these things should be mentioned. I would like to inform hon. Minister about the shortcomings in this Bill so that it should become clear in the reply to be given by hon. Minister. This Bill, which has been brought through an ordinance, is to provide protection to depositors and to check wrong practices prevailing earlier as has been mentioned in various recommendations of JPC. On behalf of my party and myself I welcome this but at the same time I oppose the practice of promulgating ordinance. I would like to say that earlier people belonging to middle class have to suffer losses as there was no provision of Bill receipt and securities. Share certificates were not being issued and bank deliveries were taking place on large scale and due to these reasons this Bill has been brought. The concept of this Depositories Bill is new for India.